



Garfield Weston
FOUNDATION

Covid-19 Advice

Addendum to our Guidelines

Thank you for considering applying to the Garfield Weston Foundation for financial support for your organisation. Our guidelines are available online (garfieldweston.org/apply-to-us/how-to-apply/gwf-application-guidelines-v3-0/) and we strongly advise you review them before you start your application to us.

During this unprecedented time we want to reassure you that we are open for business and that, if you are eligible, you can apply to us for support for the work that you do, both during the crisis and beyond. Please take our quiz to confirm your eligibility – garfieldweston.org/apply-to-us/eligibility-quiz/

We appreciate that these are challenging times, and the current Covid-19 crisis brings both uncertainty and financial implications for your organisation. This document gives some additional information that you will need to consider when you apply to help us with the assessment of your application. Once submitted, applications continue to be reviewed in date order and decisions are being made by Trustees on a regular basis as usual. We aim to let you know the outcome within four months.

Key considerations in your application

- **Changes to your activities.** Please tell us how your activities have been affected by Covid-19 and how you are responding to the situation, e.g. moving support work to telephone and online, closing your building etc.
- **Financial planning.** Please outline clearly what cost control measures you have undertaken (such as furloughing staff, closing sites, reducing activities) and financial planning you have undertaken to ensure your charity is able to operate.
- **Financial security.** Please outline your reserves position (what cash you have available and how long this will enable you to operate when cost control measures are taken into account) and any other measures you are taking to help during this difficult time, e.g. selling assets, accessing loans etc.
- **Emergency & government support.** We know that there are a number of emergency funds available as well as government support for the voluntary sector and for employers. Trustees will want to understand that you have explored all these options and are taking advantage of any relief available for your particular organisation and sector.
- **Capital projects.** We do offer support for capital projects, however at this time we suggest that you only apply if you are certain that your project will be able to go ahead within the next year as planned and that you already have a significant proportion of the funds available. If you are uncertain, you may wish to defer making your application until the situation becomes clearer and your plans are more definite.
- **Specific project support.** We offer support for projects, but would suggest that you only apply at this time if you are certain that your work can go ahead within 12 months from the date you apply to us.
- **Multi-year support.** The Trustees often make multi-year grants, however in the current situation our Trustees are aware that it is difficult to make firm financial projections beyond the next twelve months. Therefore it may be sensible to apply for one-year support, after which time you could reapply for multi-year support when, hopefully, the general outlook and your future plans are clearer.

We appreciate that the current situation is creating uncertainty for all charities and your plans may change rapidly over the next few months. If we have any questions about your application, please be reassured that one of our grants team will be in touch to ensure we have the very latest information from you when we review your application.

The Foundation is receiving unprecedented demand for funding so the Trustees have to make difficult choices and some fine distinctions between charities and projects – this unfortunately means we have to disappoint some excellent organisations. Please do bear in mind that if you are not successful, you won't be able to apply again for 12 months so do ensure your project or need is essential to your organisation.